

BRIERFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

-: of the :-

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

for the

YEAR ENDED 31st December, 1959.



A. BARLOW, M.B., Ch.B.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



*With the
Compliments of the
Medical Officer of Health.*

*Town Hall,
Brierfield.*



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Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
BRIERFIELD.
Lancashire.
June, 1960.

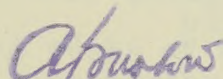
TO:- The Chairman and Members of the Brierfield
Urban District Council.

Lady and Gentlemen,

In accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular, No. 1/60, an Interim Report on the lines of the previous Reports is presented for this year. It includes only essential or urgent matters which have affected Public Health during the year. All records and statistics are being preserved so that the annual records may, so far as practicable, be continuous and complete.

I have pleasure, therefore, in submitting for your consideration, the following interim report on the Health, Sanitary Conditions and Public Health Administration in the Urban District of Brierfield for the year ended 31st December, 1959.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,



Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1959 according to the Rate Book was 2,581, the rateable value being £74,723 and the sum represented by a penny rate is £311. 0. 0.

The social conditions were generally quite good. The chief industry is cotton weaving, with a small amount of spinning and dyeing.

VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION. The population as estimated by the Registrar General for mid 1959 is 6,790.

BIRTHS. 114 Live Births belonging to the District occurred during 1959, as follows :-

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Live Births (Legitimate)	57	52	109
(Illegitimate)	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
	<u>58</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>114</u>
Stillbirths (Legitimate)	2	-	2
(Illegitimate)	-	-	-

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 live and still births 17.2
Total Live and Still Births 116

Comparative particulars with regard to live births over the last five years are given in the following tables:-

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>
Total Live Births	114	96	107	79	99
Crude Birth Rate per 1000 estimated popln.	16.8	14.1	15.8	12.8	14.5
Adjusted Rate	18.5	15.5	17.3	13.0	16.0

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total live births 4.38

<u>INFANTILE</u> (a) All infants per 1000 live births	8.8
<u>MORTALITY.</u> (b) Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	9.2
(c) Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate births	NIL.
<u>NEO-NATAL</u> (a) Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age	NIL.
<u>MORTALITY.</u> (b) Mortality Rate per 1000 live births	NIL.
<u>PERINATAL</u> Rate per 1,000 total births	17.2
<u>MORTALITY.</u>	

Comparative particulars with regard to infant mortality over the last five years are given in the following tables :-

1958.	1957.	1956.	1955.	1954.
Nil	37	51	10	23

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

- (a) Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion. Nil.
- (b) Mortality Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths. Nil.

DEATHS.

101 Deaths belonging to the District occurred during 1959 as follows :-

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Deaths within the Urban District	24	44	68
Deaths outside the Urban District in Hospitals, Institutions etc.	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>33</u>
	40	61	101

Comparative particulars with regard to deaths over the last five years are given in the following tables.

	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1955</u>
Total Deaths	101	81	93	112	112
Crude death rate per 1000 estmd. population.	14.9	11.9	13.7	16.4	16.4
Adjusted Rate	14.4	11.6	13.3	15.7	14.6

The following table gives the ages at which deaths occurred, also the causes of all deaths belonging to Brierfield during 1959.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 yr.	1-5	5-15	15-25	25-65	Over 65	M	F	TOTAL.
Tuberculosis, Non-Pulm.						1	1		1
Malignant neoplasm, Stomach						3	2	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, Lung and Bronchus.					3	1	4		4
Malignant neoplasm, Breast						1		1	1
Malignant neoplasm, Uterus						1		1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms					3	3	1	5	6
Vascular lesions of the nervous system					1	14	5	10	15
Coronary Disease, Angina					2	12	8	6	14
Hypertension with Heart Disease						4	1	3	4
Other Heart Disease					2	16	6	12	18
Other circulatory diseases					1	1		2	2
Influenza					1	3	3	1	4
Pneumonia						3	2	1	3
Bronchitis						2		2	2
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea						1		1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis					1	1	1	1	2
Congenital malformations	1							1	1
Other defined and ill-defined causes			1		4	5	4	6	10
Motor Vehicle accidents						1	1		1
All other accidents					2	4	1	5	6
Suicide					2			2	2
	1	-	1	-	22	77	40	61	101

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1959.

<u>AGE PERIOD</u>	<u>NEW CASES</u>				<u>DEATHS.</u>			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 - 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 55	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 65	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
	3		1		Nil		1	

CASES ON THE REGISTER AT THE 31st DECEMBER, 1959.

On the Register at the end of December, 1959, there were 49 cases of Tuberculosis (41 Pulmonary and 8 Non-Pulmonary) as follows :-

	5-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	Over 65	TOTAL.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	9	8	6	9	7	2	41
Non-Pulmonary								
Cervical Glands	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	4
Testis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Abdomen	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Hip	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Renal Tract	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
	5	9	8	8	10	7	2	49

As all these cases are dealt with by the County Tuberculosis Officer, we have no direct information about the number of cases receiving allowances.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

The nearest Clinic is at Burnley and any cases discovered are advised to attend this Clinic.

ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

There are no special workers in this area, but the Burnley and District House of Help does good work in this direction.

LABORATORY WORK.

This work is carried out at the Pathological Laboratory, Salus Street, Burnley, as and when necessary.

The Lancashire County Council provides and maintains the following :-

AMBULANCE SERVICE. The Urban District is serviced by Ambulances from the Divisional Ambulance Station at Reedley and both ambulances and sitting cars are available.

CHILD WELFARE SERVICE. The Infant Welfare Centre for the urban District is held weekly under the supervision of Nurse Bush, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.

MIDWIFERY SERVICE. There is one District Midwife assigned to Brierfield who resides within the District.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

Per 1,000 Estimated Population.

	<u>Crude Live Birth Rate.</u>	<u>Crude Death Rate.</u>
Mean of 5 years 1954 - 1958	12.4	14.6
Year 1958	14.1	11.9
Year 1959	16.8	14.9
Increase or decrease in 1959 on 5 years average 1954 - 58	+ 4.4	+ 0.3
Previous Year	+ 2.7	+ 3.0

MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE. DEATH RATE.

	<u>per 1000 Live Births</u>	<u>Per 1000 Live and Stillbirths.</u>	<u>of Infants under 1 Yr per 1000 Live Births</u>
Mean of 5 years 1954 - 1958	1.9	1.8	24.2
Year 1958	Nil	Nil	Nil
Year 1959	Nil	Nil	8.8
Increase or decrease in 1959 on 5 years average 1954 - 58	- 1.9	- 1.8	- 15.4
Previous Year	Nil	Nil	+ 8.8

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS).

DURING THE YEAR.

DISEASE.	TOTAL CASES	Under 1 yr.	1-3	3-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-65	Over 65	Total cases rem'd to Hos pital.	Deaths in Hosp. of pers. belonging to Dist.
Measles	6	1	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. Prim. Pneumonia	9	-	-	-	1	-	-	3	5	-	-
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	14	-	3	2	2	3	-	4	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
	31	1	4	5	5	3	-	8	5	-	-

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

BRIERFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH, CLEANSING AND SEWAGE COMMITTEE :- Chairman, Councillor Clegg, Vice-Chairman, Councillor Rawlinson, Councillors Atkinson, Birtwell, Birtwhistle, Clark, Greenwood, Kinder, Lindow, Mackie, Twist and Woodcock.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

Medical Officer of Health. Dr. Arthur Barlow.
Qualifications :- M.B., Ch.B.
Part time, Practitioner and
Treasury Medical Officer.

Public Health Inspector. Ernest Wrigley, C.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.,
M.R.I.P.H.H.
Qualifications :- Certificate of the R.S.H. and
S.I.E.J.B. Certificate R.S.H. for
Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods.
Certificate of the Royal Institute
of Public Health and Hygiene.
Duties :- All normal Public Health Inspector's
duties and Cleansing Superintendent.

WATER SUPPLIES. Brierfield is supplied with a constant supply of water from the mains of Nelson Corporation and there were no new sources of supply during the year. The water is of good quality and in good supply. Apart from a few houses in the Marsden Heights area where the supply is intermittent and a few houses in various streets where the joint service pipes are too small. All dwellinghouses within the District, except one, are supplied direct from public mains. The one exception which is supplied by spring water is an isolated farm dwelling and is a considerable distance from the nearest public main. During the year the Nelson Water Dept., re-serviced 41 houses where the existing service pipe was found to be inadequate.

Supplies to Houses. The number of houses supplied direct from public mains is 2,580. There were no extensions to the water mains during the year.

WATER SAMPLING.

Public Mains. Number of Bacteriological examinations 4
Results:- All four satisfactory.

Private Supply. Number of Bacteriological examinations 6
Results :- These samples were fairly
satisfactory, all six
showed B. Coli counts.

SWIMMING BATHS. There are no Swimming Baths or Pools within the District.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL. The sewage is carried by gravity feed to the Disposal Works at the lowest part of the District. Treatment is by means of screens, detritus tanks, sedimentation tanks, rotary filters and humus tanks. The effluent from the works is discharged into Pendle Water.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Number of Privy Middens. NIL.

Number of Pail Closets. There are six only at isolated dwellings and these are emptied weekly by Council employees.

Number of Fresh Water Closets. 1,666.

Number of Waste Water Closets. 1,146.

Conversions during the Year.

Number of Pail Closets to fresh water closets. NIL.
 Number of waste water closets to fresh water closets. 103
 Number of houses on the water carriage system. 2572

Chief Sanitary requirement of the District. The conversion of all waste water closets.

PUBLIC CLEANSING. This is carried out by direct labour with a three ton "Thames" Refuse Vehicle. Domestic refuse and refuse from shops, factories etc., is collected weekly free of charge and disposed of by controlled tipping on the Council's Tip.

Number of Moveable Ashbins. 2,852.

SALVAGE. The collection of salvage has been maintained and the following amounts of materials were salvaged during the year.

<u>Weights.</u>			<u>Materials.</u>	<u>Amount realised.</u>		
T.	C.	Q.		£.	s.	d.
123.	18.	1.	Waste Paper.	937.	1.	5.
1.	9.	1.	Rags and String.	22.	11.	0.
7.	13.	2.	Scrap Metal.	41.	3.	1.
133.	1.	0.		£1000.	15.	6.

For comparison purposes the statistics relating to the last five years are as follows :-

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Weight of Salvage.</u>			<u>Total Revenue.</u>		
	T.	C.	Q.	£.	s.	d.
1954	132.	2.	1.	926.	9.	10.
1955	152.	9.	3.	1167.	13.	5.
1956	132.	6.	3.	1091.	16.	8.
1957	142.	15.	0.	1117.	15.	1.
1958	149.	14.	0.	1183.	11.	10.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS DURING 1959 (Including Housing).

Number of Complaints received	124
Number of Premises visited.	1825
Number of visits made.	2545
Number of defects or nuisances discovered.	189
Number of defects remedied.	168
Number of Notices served (Statutory)	1
(Informal)	132

DISINFESTATION. Nine dwellings were treated during the year, seven for cockroach infestation and two for fleas. Vermicine spray and D.D.T. Powder with Pyrethrins were used.

CAMPING SITES AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS. There are no caravans or sites Licensed under the Public Health Act, 1936.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951. One shop was licensed under this Act. The premises are maintained in a clean and satisfactory condition.

H O U S I N G.

CONDITION. The majority of the houses are terraced, stone built and from 30 to 70 years old. The later types are brick-built and mainly semi-detached. Most of them are owner/occupier and well maintained. There are still vacant houses for sale within the district, the majority of owners being reluctant to re-let.

BACK TO BACK HOUSES. There are 17 such houses, the majority are owner/occupier and are extremely well maintained and in very good condition.

NEW BUILDINGS. No new houses were erected by the Local Authority during 1959. Six houses were completed during the year by private enterprise.

OVER)CROWDING. No new cases were reported during the year.

INSPECTION OF DWELLINGHOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected formally or informally for housing defects under the Public Health or Housing Acts.	117
(b) Number of inspections, formal or informal, made	271
(c) Number of houses found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation, but capable of being rendered fit.	95

CLEARANCE AREAS, Housing Act, 1957.

Number of dwellinghouses demolished during year	3
Number of persons displaced.	Nil

HOUSES NOT INCLUDED IN CLEARANCE AREAS, Housing Act, 1957.

(1) (a) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure. (Section 17)	Nil
(b) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners and still in force. (Section 16)	1
(11) Number of persons displaced	2
(111) Parts of buildings closed. (Section 18)	1
Number of persons displaced	3

REPAIRS DURING THE YEAR.

(a) Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the year as a result of informal action by the Local Authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts.	88
(b) Public Health Act - action after service of formal notice, houses in which defects were remedied,	
(i) By Owners	1
(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners.	Nil
(c) Housing Act, 1957 - action after service of formal notice (Sections 9 and 16) houses made fit,	
(i) By Owners	Nil
(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959 - STANDARD GRANTS.

Action during the year.	Number of Schemes.	Number of dwellings or other buildings affected.
(a) Submitted to Local Authority	144	144
(b) Approved by Local Authority	129	129
(c) Work completed	59	59

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

Number of Distributors registered by the Local Authority and operating from:-

(a) Dairies in the District	5
(b) Premises outside the District	7
(c) Shops in the District other than Dairies	33

Number of Dealer's Licenses (including supplementary licenses) issued by the Local Authority during 1959 in respect of Tuberculin Tested Milk :- 14

Number of Licenses issued in respect of "Heat Treated Milk" :-

Pasteurised	11
Sterilised	39

MILK SAMPLING. During the year 26 samples of milk were obtained, 20 of which were Raw Milk (Tuberculin Tested) 4 Pasteurised and 2 Sterilised. These samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination with the following results :-

Type of Test.	No. of Samples.	Results.
Tuberculosis	24	All satisfactory.
Brucellosis	20	19 Negative, 1 Positive.
Methylene Blue	9	8 Satisfactory, 1 Unsatisfactory
Phosphatase	4	All Satisfactory
Turbidity	2	Both Satisfactory.

One Notice was served under Regulation 20 of the Milk and

Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, relating to one cow in a dairy herd of thirteen. This was a positive case of *Brucella Abortus*. On receipt of the Notice the farmer sent the affected beast in for grading and slaughter.

ICE CREAM SAMPLES. Twenty four samples of Ice Cream were obtained during the year and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory. Twenty two samples were Grade I, one sample was Grade II and the remaining sample was Grade IV. The one Grade IV sample was from a local manufacturer and suitable action was immediately taken with regard to this sample, with the result that all subsequent samples have been Grade I.

SLAUGHTERING FACILITIES. There are no public or private slaughterhouses in operation within the District.

FOOD POISONING. There were no cases of Food Poisoning during the year.

UN SOUND FOOD. The following items of unsound food were condemned during 1959 :-

12 lbs. of Cooked Ham (Tinned).
42 lbs. of Wet Fish.

FOOD PREMISES. The number of Food Premises by type of business in the District at the end of 1959 was as follows :-

<u>Type of Business.</u>	<u>Number.</u>	<u>No. of Inspections.</u>
General Grocers	34	80
Greengrocers and Fruiterers (including wet fish)	5	39
Butchers and Cooked Meats	14	91
Bakers and Confectioners	13	82
Fried Fish Shops	5	12
Sugar Confectionery, Ice Cream, Minerals etc.	15	108
Licensed Hotels	10	46
Other licensed premises, Canteens, Snack Bars, etc.	18	51
Others	2	7

Premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. or under Local Acts.

<u>Type of Business.</u>	<u>No. Registered.</u>	<u>No. of Inspections of registered premises during the year.</u>
Butchers and Meat Products.	14	91
Bakers and Confectioners	7	49
Grocers and Mixed	13	66
Sweets and Soft Drinks	14	98

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 ^{To 1959} and 1948.

Particulars of inspections made under these Acts are given in the Appendix to this Report.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Number of Factory Chimneys in the District	5
Observations taken during the year	25
Smoke nuisances discovered	Nil.

RODENT CONTROL.

Two treatments of the Council's sewers **were** carried out during the year. 63 man-holes were baited and 22 showed pre-bait takes on one or more days. In addition the following infested properties were treated.

<u>Local Authority Property.</u>	<u>Dwellinghouses.</u>	<u>Business Premises.</u>
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16

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PREScribed PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE
FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector.).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Secs. 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authy.	3	5	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec.7 is enforced by Local Authy.	51	89	5	-
(iii) Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by Local Authy. (excluding out-worker's premises)	4	4	-	-
TOTAL	58	98	5	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found. (If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars	Number of Cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H. M. Inspector.	By H. M. Inspector.	
Want of Cleanli ness (S.1.)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding S.2	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable Tem- perature. S.3	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate Ven- tilation S.4	1	1	-	-	-
Ineffective drain- age of floors S.6	2	2	-	-	-
Sanitary Con- veniences. S.7					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for the sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Outworkers)	-	-	-	-	-
	5	5	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK.

(Sections 110 and 111)

Section 110			Section 111		
No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

